

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Tamilnadu	19.18	0.32	20.43	0.23	19.50	0.32
Andhra Pradesh	1.68	8.30	2.02	8.31	2.32	9.24
Arunachal Pradesh	2.83	Negligible	1.91	Negligible	1.40	Negligible
Others	4.34	0.61	0.54	0.59	-	0.85

### Oil Refining

\*188. PROF. OMPAL SINGH 'NIDAR' :  
SHRI PANKAJ CHOWDHARY :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) the present oil refining capacity of the country;
- (b) whether the Government have chalked out any programme to increase the oil refining;
- (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the extent by which the oil refining capacity of the country is likely to be increased by the year 2000?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):  
(a) The existing oil refinery capacity in the country is 60.55 MMTPA.

(b) and (c). Efforts are being made to increase the refining capacity in the country by taking up expansion/debottlenecking of existing refineries and by setting up of new grass root refineries in the Public Sector and Joint Sector. Government has also allowed private investment including foreign investment in the Refining Sector.

(d) In pursuance of the liberalisation of Industrial Policy, Letters of Intent have been granted to a number of companies for setting up of Refineries in the private sector for about 70 MMTPA including Export Oriented Units. On materialisation of all the proposals, refining capacity at the end of 9th Plan is estimated to be about 130.75 MMTPA, excluding EOU's capacity.

### Setting up of Electronic Industries

\*189. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether any study has been conducted for setting up of Electronics Industries in the States;
- (b) if so, the details thereof and steps taken in this regard;
- (c) whether any requests have come from various State Governments including the State of Kerala for assistance to set up such industries; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the action thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) and (b). While no specific study has been conducted to identify States for setting up of electronic industries, the Government of India encourage the setting up of electronic industries throughout the country in all relevant sectors of electronics. The concerned State Government or agencies like the State Electronics Development Corporation (SEDCs) provide some facilities and promotional incentives for setting up of specific industrial units in the State. The Department of Electronics gives necessary guidance and approvals/licences, etc. The Software Technology Park Scheme and the Electronic Hardware Technology Park Scheme have been especially designed to encourage the growth of software and hardware sectors of Electronics. The Department of Electronics also provides some assistance for projects in areas such as manpower development, quality certification, testing and standardisation, R and D in electronics, etc.

(c) and (d). A proposal for financial assistance for setting up an Innovation Centre at the Technopark, Thiruvananthapuram has been received from the State Government of Kerala. Preliminary examination of the proposal has been done in consultation with the representatives of the State Government.

### National Task Force

\*190. SHRI NITISH KUMAR :  
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the National Task Force for Power Sector has been set up by the Government recently;
- (b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its composition and responsibilities entrusted to it;
- (c) whether the task force has since submitted its report to the Government;
- (d) if so, the details and recommendations thereof;
- (e) whether the Government have initiated any follow up action to implement the recommendations made in the report; and
- (f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b). The National Task Force (NTF) was constituted by the Government in February, 1995. It has been entrusted the responsibility of implementing recommendations relating to Bulk Power and Transmission Tariffs and also to provide a forum for periodic consultations with various agencies connected with the implementation of these recommendations. The NTF is headed by Chairman, CEA and includes, inter alia, the Chairmen of the Regional Electricity Boards.

(c) and (d). The National Task Force has, inter-alia, made the following recommendations :

- (i) Availability based generation tariff will be adopted in respect of all thermal stations including future Independent Power Producers.
- (ii) While fixing the 'merit order' operation of the generating plants in a region, due weightage will be given to the transmission losses and other grid conditions. The operation of the 'merit order' system, to be introduced on a regional basis, will be entrusted to the Regional Electricity Boards under the aegis of the Central Electricity Authority.
- (iii) In respect of central thermal power stations, the fixed charges will be apportioned on the basis of 'entitlement'.

(e) and (f). The Central Electricity Authority will formulate the parameters for determining the plant availability factor for thermal power stations and this would be reviewed after every two years. The dates for switch over to the new tariff regime, based on Plant Availability Factor as determined by CEA, would be notified by the Government of India.

#### Rural Electrification

\*191. SHRI JANG BAHADUR SINGH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rural electricity rules need change" appearing in the 'Hindustan Times' dated August 24, 1996;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto;

(c) the number of villages yet to be electrified in the country; and

(d) the time by which all the villages in the country are likely to be electrified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The news item draws attention mainly to the need for a review of the

existing definition of village electrification as also the rates of interest charged by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) from its borrowers viz the SEB's.

(b) Government is in the process of reviewing the existing definition of Village Electrification. The views of all the State Governments in this regard has also been sought for.

With regard to the interest rates charged by REC, as a public financial institution, it borrows funds from the capital market in addition to the loans it receives from the Government. REC in turn charges differential rates of interest taking into account the viability of the schemes and other relevant factors. It operates at a margin of only 0.5% above the Rate of Interest at which it receives the Minimum Needs Programme loan from the Government.

(c) As per available information, as on 31st March, 1996, 80,021 villages remain to be electrified in the country.

(d) Rural Electrification is a continuous programme. Physical and financial targets for the programme are fixed annually by the Planning Commission in consultation with the State Governments/State Electricity Boards, after taking into account the availability of funds and other inputs.

[Translation]

#### Non-Conventional Energy Sources for Irrigation

\*192. SHRI R.L.P. VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to start power generation from non-conventional energy sources;

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in the near future to make the solar energy, wind energy and other equipments, used in installation of non-conventional energy sources of energy, easily available at cheaper rates; and

(c) the amount likely to be spent on this project and the time by which the same is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) to (c). The Government is giving priority to power generation from non-conventional energy sources such as wind, small hydro, biomass and solar energy. The Ministry has been implementing a wide range of programmes for this purpose, as a result of which more than 1000 MW of power generation capacity from non-conventional energy sources, has been installed in the country.

The Government provides fiscal and financial incentive under a wide range of programmes implemented by the Ministry for the promotion of non-conventional energy, such as the Integrated Rural